human beings and also for the benefit of the victims of the natural calamities. Up till now, I have received no complaint from any Chief Minister of the non-Congress^) States, from any hon. Member of the House. Whenever it is brought to my notice and it is said, "Mr. Panja, kindly see..."

Exemption was given but it has has been deleted. On enquiry, it was found that the Trust has taken loan and utilised the money for commercial purposes. Naturally, it goes outside the parameters and that is why it was done. I am sure the hon. Member is satisfied with my answer.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): I now put Mr. Sivaji's amendment to vote.

The question is :

That the Rajya Sabha recommends to the Lok Sabha that the following amendment to be made in the Incometax (Amendment) Bill, 1989, as passed by the Lok Sabha, namely:—

That at page 2, *after* line 4 the following be *inserted,* namely:-

(iiiaaa) Chief Minister's Relief Fund in any State and the Chief Minister's Relief Fund in Andhra Pradesh for granting relief to the riot victims of December, 1988 in Coastal areas of the State."

The motion was negatived.Clause 3 was added to the Bill.Clause 4 was added to the Bill.Clause 1, The Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be returned. *The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I **Notification of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) under subsec tion (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944.**

II Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN IHE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification No. 112/89-C.E. dated the 31st march, 1989, amending Notification No. 205/88-C.E. dated the 25th May, 1988 so as to exempt solar photovoltaic cells to be used in the man-lfacture of specified items from whole of excise duty, under sub-seetion (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, together with an Explanatory memorandum on the Notification. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-7667/89]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962, together with an Explanatory memorandum on the Notifica-tions:-

(i) No. - 134 / 89-Customs, dated the 31st March, 1989, prescribing Nil' rate of duty on specified goods imported for the purposes of offshore oil exploration / exploitation in supersession of Notification No. 334 / 88-Customs, dated the 31st December, 1988.

(ii) No. 135 / 89-Customs, dated the 31st March, 1989, seeking to fix Nil auxiliary duty of customs in respect of goods imported for the purposes of off-shore oil exploration/exploitation covered by Notification No. 134 / 89-Customs, dated the 31st March, 1989 and also deletes a redundant entry from Notification No. 108 / 89-Customs, dated ,the lst March, 1989.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. I LT-7667 / 89 for (i) and (ii)]

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): Now, we adjourn to meet again at 2.30 P.M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at thirty-two minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-three minutes past two of the clock The Vice-Chairman (Shri Jagesh Desai) in the Chair.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—

Crisis facing the Jute arid Textile Industries in the country and Action Taken by Government in this regard

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan) : Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Textiles to the crisis facing the jute and textile industries in the country and the action taken by Government in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA); Sir, the Hon'ble Members of the House have drawn our attention to the crisis facing the jute and textile industries in the country.

One of the basic yardsticks for evaluating the general health of the textile sector is the trends in the production figures of yarn and cloth. The total production of yarn in the country increased from 1382 million kgs. in 1984-85 to 1555 million kgs jn 1987-88. Similarly, the production of cloth rose from a level of 12014 million meters in 1984-85 to a level of 12992 million meteres in 1987-88. It will thus be evident that the production of yarn and cloth have been steadily increasing.

On the price front, while the general index of wholesale prices registered an increase of around 24% between May 1985 and February 1989, the index number of textile prices increased by 18% only over the same period. It is evident, therefore, that the prices of cloth have been contained within reasonable levels and, therefore, the main objective of Government policy of providing ade quate amounts of cloth at reasonable prices to meet the needs of a growing population have been largely achieved.

An important parameter for evaluating the performance of the textile sector is the generation of employment. While the level of employment in the mill sector marginally declined from a level of 12.53 lakhs in 1986 to an estimated 11.81 lakhs in 1988, this was more than made-up by the increase in employment in the decentralised sectors. It is estimated that the level of employment in the handloom sector increased from 72.76 lakhs in 1986 to 84.22 lakhs in 1988. Similarly, the employment in the powerloom sector has increased from a level of 31.9 lakhs in 1986 to 55.95 lakhs in 1988. The overall position indicates that the total employ ment in the textile sector has gone up by more than 25% during the last three years.

The performance of the textile sector on the export front has been extremely satisfactory. The total exports of textiles, excluding coir and jute, were of the orders of Rs. 3785 crores in 1987-88 as